

# METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR OPERATING A NETWORK SERVER TO DISCOURAGE INAPPROPRIATE USE

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system for operating a network server to discourage inappropriate  
5 use are disclosed. A server is connected to a plurality of connected client devices, and  
is configured to transfer information between any selected one of the client devices and  
a memory for static storage of information. The method comprises the steps of  
receiving a request to transfer a file between the memory and one of the plurality of  
10 client devices, removing a packet comprising a defined number of information bits from  
the file, transferring the packet between the memory and the client device per the  
request, then pausing for a defined delay period, and repeating the removing,  
transferring, and pausing steps in order until all of the file has been transferred.  
Preferably, the method further comprises increasing the defined delay period after each  
15 execution of a packet transfer cycle, thereby discouraging the transfer of unacceptably  
large files. The delay period may be initiated, and the amount of increase or other  
adjustment to the delay period during the transfer cycle may be controlled, by selected a  
predetermined value from a table, or by calculating a value based on variable input  
parameters such as the file size, server load, network response time, and number of  
20 transfer requests from the client device within a defined prior period. The number of  
information bits in the packet may similarly be initiated, and adjusted during the transfer  
cycle. The system comprises the server having an application for performing the  
method according to the invention.